

## The Weekly Register.

POINT PLEASANT, VA.,

THURSDAY : : : OCTOBER 9, 1862.

## Martial Law.

By a proclamation issued by the President on the 26th ult., martial law has been declared over all loyal portions of the United States. This is an extreme measure, and in ordinary times would be arbitrary and despotic, and indeed subversive of our Republican institutions; but surrounded, as the nation is, with secret and wily enemies, in league with the desperate, unprincipled and formidable foe, who breathing threatening and slaughter has invaded our very hearths and menaces the destruction of our Government itself; it is in our judgement not only proper, but absolutely indispensable. The great and beneficent writ of *habeas corpus*, it is true, is inoperative in the cases covered by the proclamation, but it must be borne in mind that, that invaluable right was adopted from the English law in furtherance, and not in subversion to free institutions. Who now complains that his liberty is abridged, his right to be tried by a jury of his countrymen denied him, and the constitutional right, to call to his aid this potential writ of *habeas corpus* absolutely withheld, who, we repeat remonstrates,—the *aiders and abettors of treason*, and none beside them. The President has the constitutional or discretionary right, to suspend this writ in all cases of invasion or insurrection and certainly such an extensive insurrection, as this one, could never have been thought possible, in this free country, by our venerated fathers who framed our inimitable constitution. President Lincoln has done right, and an intelligent, patriotic people will sustain him. Fortunately for the country, our forbearing, amiable executive had his reputation for *honesty* too well established, ere his elevation to the Presidency to justify the thought that he will ever prostitute his great powers to the subversion of the liberties of his country. Loyal men every where not only fear no deprivation of guaranteed rights, but hail with delight this new evidence that the administration is determined to circumvent the intrigues of these hellish traitors, and by a summary trial inflict condign and speedy punishment upon their guilty heads. So far, but one man has been shot for his treason, and that was done under military law by Gen. Butler, but hereafter let every one, endeavoring to overthrow his country, be after trial, instantly shot.

The writ is suspended only in cases of practicing or attempting to practice, certain offences detrimental to, and destructive of the perpetuity of the established government. What those offences are, may be ascertained from an inspection of the proclamation ordering that suspension. The object, or rather the cause of this partial suspension, is declared to be, because "disloyal persons are not adequately restrained by the ordinary processes of law from hindering" &c., "and from giving aid and comfort in various ways to the insurrection." It is no despotic use, of the vast military power of the government, by the President its commander-in-chief—to drag men from the security and privacy of the family hearth, and, after a mock trial, subject them to the tortures of the guillotine—for this vast army is, or doubtless soon will be, far southward and engaged in putting down the armed traitors in front, while the authorized officers of the government will apprehend, the secret enemy in the rear, of our armies. And the President through these officers will, in order to insure that these infamous wretches, do not "go unwhipped of justice," and in order too, that they be not tempted to indulge in these species of crimes, relying upon "the hooks and crooks," and "technicalities of the law,"—bring him before a court martial, where "tricks and dodges" are unavailing,—compelling him to stand the searching, blunt, investigations incident to these courts, and all this, the President now apprises him of, and forewarns him against. Martial law has been declared several times since the rebellion began, but only for a certain time or over a certain extent of territory, but now it is co-extensive with the actual jurisdiction of the government, and continues "during the existing insurrection"—and as a necessary measure for suppressing the same." Each man for himself may readily determine by consulting "that faithful monitor within," whether he has been so far guilty as to be obnoxious to arrest under the new regime; if so, let him "cease to do evil" and all will be well with him, but if he will persist in

aiding the open and defiant enemies of his country, let him henceforth know, that summary, though just punishment awaits him for his most heinous of all crimes known to the calendar, and a much abused, but still loyal people, will say amen! at his ignominious end.

## Repeopling the South.

A project is on foot, we notice, to re-people the rebellious States by loyal men. It is a scheme fraught with momentous results both to the country generally and especially to the rebellious States. The prime leaders of this atrocious conspiracy, with their siders and abettors, will flee the State, necessarily abandoning their real estate, which will be sold by the Government for non-payment of the direct taxes; and these armed colonists will purchase it, and establishing themselves there, will gather around them their friends and relatives from the loyal States, until the whole of a given State is re-peopled. Most of the non-land-holders, are in the rebel army, or have already died in the service of their cruel, heartless, knavish, insatiate leaders; and so that but few men remain. The demand for laborers will, however, soon be supplied either from adjoining rebellious neighborhoods, or with settlers from the Northern "bee-hive." The enterprising farmer, mechanic and manufacturer, from the free States, will bring to his aid all the most improved implements of labor, and mechanism, and can thereby dispense with much of the manual labor, indispensable under the old slaveholding regime. When from immigration on the one hand, and death and expatriation on the other, a majority in any State, is secured, the Constitution and laws will be made to conform to the views and tastes of the source of all laws in a republic—the bonafide people of such State. After such radical changes, in the fundamental law and dependent statutes, of a State, those in antagonism to the new order of things would probably emigrate to more congenial communities, and their places filled *par passu* by friends of such altered Constitution and laws. A military Governor will in the first place be necessary, until sufficient loyal men arrive to govern the State in consonance with the great controlling charter of all States—the United States Constitution. Immediately upon the securing of a majority, United States Senators and Representatives will be sent to Washington, and an old State will, after its baptism of blood, take its place again in our unique galaxy, under new auspices and guarantees, that its brilliant destiny will never again be dimmed or thwarted by traitors.

## Dismissed.

With the liveliest satisfaction, we notice the announcement that Commodore Preble, of the United States Navy, has been summarily dismissed from the service for dereliction of duty, in permitting a rebel craft to escape from Mobile Bay, a few days since. A long, suffering and indignant people, have long been shocked and humiliated by similar dastardly occurrences, and clamored for a corrective. Treason, alone, can account for the impunity with which inferior rebel vessels have for a year past, evaded our blockading fleet. British gold and southern friends have supplanted what loyalty these miscreants once possessed, and the lustre of the old flag has been tarnished, by its most jealous and enthusiastic custodians in the better days of the Republic. Let the President hereafter inflict condign punishment upon every naval officer from Admiral to Mate, who fails (as in the case of a British Admiral), to do his *whole* duty, if he would have our blockade effective, or preserve our ancient naval renown. We demand, too, of the President, the immediate dismissal of every incompetent officer in our army, from Major-General to Second Lieutenant; and the trial by court-martial, of all traitorous officers or persons in any way connected with the conduct of the war, and the retention of all back pay from the villainous hypocrite. There is no lack of the true metal, or requisite talent, in our army; all that is required, is that they be placed in responsible positions, to the absolute exclusion of fools and traitors. Let no considerations of influential friends, former position, or friendship delay the blow, a lacerated country demands. The blood of thousands of brave men, calls for vengeance upon the guilty heads that caused their cruel and needless sacrifice. We trust the day for dallying with such matters is forever past, and that hereafter, we shall have none but competent loyal officers to lead our unequalled volunteers.

Capt. O. G. Chase of the steamer Victor has our thanks for favors.

## Gubernatorial Meeting.

Upon the suggestion of the Executives of the three contiguous States, of Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania, the Governors of all loyal States, were invited to meet at Altoona, Pa., on the 26th ult.; and forthwith a buzz is heard throughout the sympathizers camp, not unlike that caused by hurling a rock against a bee-hive. Treason, ghastly treason, is passed from mouth to mouth, as glibly, as though the utterance had not cost a contemptible falsehood. Conspirators! our zealous, patriotic, indefatigable and philanthropic Governors, conspirators! but perhaps you judged it scarcely *laudable*, though a *lie*, since you have been congenially engaged, for sixteen long months, in "conspiracy," and yet go unhung. "God of Heaven! what sleight of hand!" "You 'fraid the meeting will result in evil to the country;" which country do you refer to? Certainly not to the one that, for three generations, has protected your patriotic fathers, and still protects and defends, through day and night, the persons and property of you, their degenerate sons. You, certainly, cannot "fear" what you have long moved heaven and earth to accomplish—"evil to the country" of Washington. You "don't see the object of the meeting!" Strange, very strange, that when the friends of the government, meet in council, when their country is well nigh overwhelmed by armed traitors, that they should not gratuitously apprise you, the spies, siders and abettors of those armed legions, so that you might "see the object of the meeting." It is utterly impossible that you could have thought our State Executives, capable of acting the role of traitors, and conspirators, against their country; you are, therefore, convicted of the basest falsehood, for the ignoble purpose—patent to all intelligent men—of alarming the fears, and arousing the passions, of the illiterate, of pandering to the prejudices, blighting the hopes, repressing the patriotism and impairing the confidence in their rulers of those, who, unfortunately both for themselves and their country, are wont to look to you, for information, advice and direction. When our agonized, beloved country, has successfully passed this fiery ordeal, where, oh! where, will you—political traitors, and treason-hatching demagogues—hide, from an abused and outraged people, your gory heads.

We are asked almost every day "when will there be an advance movement of the army of the Kanawha?" As we are not in the confidence of those in command, we are not prepared to answer the question definitely and satisfactorily; but from present indications, we suppose that when a railroad is constructed from the mouth of the Kanawha to Gauley, and one hundred thousand troops have collected at Point Pleasant, and all the subsistence in the Kanawha Valley has been appropriated by the rebels to their own use, and after they have supplied themselves with salt for the next twelve months, and the last Union man in the Valley is driven from his home and all his property destroyed—in short, when it is ascertained to a dead moral certainty that the last rebel soldier has evacuated the Valley,—then and not till then, in our opinion will that movement forward be made.

Capt. JAMES H. DAYTON has been promoted to the office of Major of the 4th Va. Reg., to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Major Hall. Capt. Dayton, if we are correctly informed, was the first officer commissioned in the United States volunteer service in the State of Virginia, at the outbreaking of the rebellion and has proven himself worthy of a higher position than has been assigned him, by his gallantry and soldierly bearing in the severe skirmishes in which his company was engaged along the line of the B. & O. Railroad, and elsewhere. The fact that he is a Virginian "to the manor born" was sufficient, however, in the opinion of the executive of this State, to render him unfit for the position of Colonel in a new regiment. There will be a reckoning some day of all these matters.

## Sergeant-Major.

It affords us much pleasure to announce that our esteemed friend W. W. Harper, of Hartford City, has been appointed to this honorable position in our new regiment—the 13th Virginia. He will bring to the discharge of his new and arduous duties, ready penmanship, a business tact, and also unexceptionable habits.—We assure him of our best wishes in his new field of labor for the glorious old Union so dear to him.

## Affairs on the Potomac.

The Correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette, writing from Washington under date of October 6th says:—The general expectation now points to a speedier of active operations, either by the rebels or by our army, than had been anticipated up to within a few days. The rebels no longer press upon our immediate front opposite Washington. The nearest point at which any armed rebel force was known to be yesterday, was Rappahannock station, on the Orange & Alexandria R. R. 50 miles southwest of Alexandria. At that point they had three infantry and two cavalry regiments, or, as their regiments go now, probably about a couple of thousand men. They seemed to be engaged simply in protecting their railroad connections and patrolling the Rappahannock to prevent any attempt by our troops to cross the river above or below the station, and move in their rear toward Gordonsville.

The belief is, that at the latter point there is no considerable force, nor indeed any where from there to Richmond.—Meantime it is rumored that they have sent re-enforcements to their army in the Kanawha Valley, and are hurrying forward all the conscripts they can collect to re-enforce Lee's army in the neighborhood of Winchester. Neither party attempts to hold Leesburg; but Friday last a small body of rebel cavalry made a reconnaissance to the place, and occupied it sometime.

## What Next!

When the dispenser of the offices, appertaining to the military in this part of the State, had rewarded his favorites, to the exclusion of Virginians of intrinsic worth and unblemished character; when we say, these things had been done, to the extreme disgust of all those most affected thereby; we had thought an unbridled ambition and inordinate meddling could go no further, what then was our surprise, to learn that a high officer, in a new regiment, was dictated to, and compelled to abandon a projected enterprise against the enemy, by this modest gentleman, who has kindly taken upon himself to manage hereafter, all business, both civil and military, that may require attending to, and at the same time, keep a hundred rebels far off, preserving our property of all description from all wanton destruction, and our defenceless selves and families from every harm, by graciously gathering us under his fatherly arms, "even as a hen gathereth her brood under her wings."

## THE PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION.

A Washington letter in New York Commercial, says Gov. Stanley is believed to have left Washington fully satisfied with the emancipation proclamation, as he is confident that before the first day of next January, North Carolina will "be in good faith represented in the Congress of the United States." It is expected that Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee and Louisiana will also thus be exempted from the proclamation of liberation, with which the new year is to be ushered in. In regard to our foreign relations, the correspondent says:

"Gentlemen connected with foreign legations, express themselves in favor of the proclamation, with the exception of those who have been kept on the south side of metropolitan society by social influences. Several diplomats have declared that had Mr. Lincoln issued this proclamation a month sooner, it would have effectually prevented any interference in our domestic affairs by the European powers. Whether it should be inferred from this that any steps have been taken, every reader can judge.

"Certain it is that the return of Lord Lyons is anxiously awaited by those who have regarded him as the real representative of the European powers on American affairs. It is well known that Louis Napoleon has the highest regards for his lordship's opinions, and it is believed that these opinions are favorable to the United States."

## The 13th Regiment V. V. I.

It affords us the greatest satisfaction, to learn unofficially, that this—our own new regiment—is in course of "receiving their pay," so long and so cruelly withheld. If this "rumor" proves to be "a fact" we shall in our next issue (as we have not room this week) have something to say, and if it is not "a fact" we shall then have, more than "something" to say, about their treatment.

QUERY.—Does any rebel sympathiser, know of any eatable fruit, any chickens or pigs, &c., or even any grain or hay belonging to a Union man "in these parts," that has not yet been taken by our Union friends—the U. S. soldiers,—if you do, "tell on 'em" before you "give your eyes to slumber," and we'll pledge you our old hat, they will be "cleaned out," before morning.

## Shoulder Straps and Official Authority.

No enterprise, however small or great, can be successfully prosecuted without an organization, and that organization needs a head officer and subordinates, whose duties are distinctly and plainly set forth. This is the case as well in civil as military affairs. Hence we have a Commander-in-Chief, Major and Brigadier Generals, Colonels, Lieut. Colonels, Majors, Captains, Lieutenants, Corporals, Sergeants, &c. All these wear marks of distinction; shoulder straps, and tape of every hue, are brought into requisition to decorate the wardrobes of these official dignitaries, who, like the Peacock, pride themselves in their beautiful plumage. One would suppose that such paraphernalia would not give officials, men of common sense, such a vast amount of pride and pomposity, but even the casual observer cannot but note the great change these decorations make upon the man; strip him of citizen dress and deck his person with the trappings peculiar to the officials named above, and you at once give him an importance that makes him imagine that he is "monarch of all he surveys," and that no one has a right to dispute his authority. Hence you see those men high in authority tyrants of the deepest dye, who have no feelings in common with those under their command. They would make the poor private hewers of wood and drawers of water; while they board at hotels and feast upon the fat of the land, the poor soldier is domiciled in camp and fed upon fat pork, beans, sheep-iron crackers, with a little coffee and sugar and compelled to sleep upon the soft side of a board; while these officials are receiving large salaries, with stealings in, the private receives a small pittance, insufficient to support a very small family, to say nothing about supporting large ones. This is a fact that no one can gainsay. If any one doubts let him go into the villages, towns, and cities where the heads of families have gone forth to fight the battles of the country, and he will see our assumption verified; there he will see women and children thronging the provision stores where arrangements have been made for them to buy stores, and he will see them turned away with empty baskets, the proprietors saying to them that their accounts had been taken up and that they could not get any more until further arrangements were made.

But it may be asked, how can these difficulties be remedied? Are they not too formidable to be overcome? We answer we do not think they are. Reduce the salaries of the officers of the army and increase the pay of the common soldier; guard well the thriving and peculation so extensively practiced by officials and contractors. This is a simple but a sure mode. Let the officers fight harder to crush out this infernal rebellion, and less for money. Don't be men of seven principles—five for leaves and two for fishes.

Mr. Nicolay, the President's Private Secretary, who has been spending the summer in Minnesota, sustains the views already expressed by others concerning the importance of the Indian outbreak.

He says the outrages already committed by the Sioux, involving the loss of hundreds of lives and large amount of property, preclude the possibility of peace till such punishment has been inflicted as shall give them substantial motives for good conduct hereafter.

THE WEATHER.—Saturday evening we were refreshed by a glorious shower of rain, laying effectually the stifling and disease-breeding dust, and clearing the infected atmosphere; but as the protracted and severe drouth, had parched all vegetation, and so hardened the earth, that farmers could not seed, we hope and trust we may soon be favored with,—not an occasional "shower"—but a long, soaking, old fashioned rain, and "we will ever pray, &c."

"ONE HUNDRED DAYS."—Napoleon after his return from Elba ruled France "one hundred days." Fremont commanded the Mississippi Department "one hundred days"—and Abraham Lincoln gives the rebel conspirators "one hundred days" to save their "chateaus" by a timely return to the protecting fold of "the star spangled banner."

MR. A. G. JENKINS, Esq.—Sir: If you desire any information in regard to the number of our troops, or the fortifications near Point Pleasant, we refer you to the Gallipolis Dispatch, as you can find "nothing satisfactory" in the "Weekly Register."

QUERY.—Has the man that said "our fortifications don't amount to a piezune" examined them?—and if so, has he reported?

We call the attention of our readers to the card of Mr. John Dages, Gallipolis, O. He has on hand a large lot of Boots, Shoes, leather, &c. Persons on this side of the river, wanting anything in his line would do well to give him a call. All orders sent to him will be promptly attended to.

Rumors rather better authenticated than usual, say that the rebels are falling back from Winchester toward Culpepper. It is fully believed, in some quarters at any rate, that they are sure to retreat on the first serious demonstration from our lines against their position.

## HARTFORD CITY, VA.,

Sept. 22, 1862.

Mr. Editor:—While sitting in my room reflecting upon the sad and deplorable condition of my country, and the various means to be employed in extricating from our midst, all secession and treason, and to inspire and strengthen in the minds of the people, a firm and abiding love and affection for our country, and the great and free principles upon which the Government is founded, none struck my mind more forcibly as being a powerful means for the accomplishment of this much desired end than a well conducted, uncompromising, loyal newspaper. We think this one of the best possible means by which to enlighten the minds of the people. In the first place a newspaper is a thing that all most everybody will read. The truth is, it has got to be so at present that newspaper reading composes about nineteen-twentieths of all that is read.—The newspapers of to-day are the only channels through which light and truth is communicated to the great masses of mankind. A man very seldom these times takes up a book and sets down to read—it is all the paper, the paper. Go into the blacksmith shop, the carpenter shop, the store, the office, the school-room, the corners of the street, the market places, steamboats, railroad cars, harvest fields and the highways and the hedges, in fact wherever you find two or three gathered together, there you will find the newspaper in the tented field, with the pickets in the brush, and setting on the pavements of the rocks, on the mountain side, or seated at the root of the sturdy oak, or on some decaying trunk, there you may find the Union soldier pouring over the newspaper. What a powerful engine for good or evil, has this become to us! What a deep interest ought every Union man to take in supporting these pages that stand up for, and defend this glorious cause?

My principle object in this correspondence, is to call the attention of the readers of the Register to the fact, and urge upon them the great importance of waking up to the importance of the hour. This excellent little paper has just come into being, and we all know that it is perfectly sound upon the great question before the people. We know that the secessionist don't like it, and that they are doing all they can against it. This fact is notorious, hence we call upon every Union man to put forth all his energies to increase its circulation. I am perfectly satisfied that if every loyal subscriber would make a proper effort, that the number of subscriptions would soon be doubled; but let the loyal people of our county suffer this paper once to go down, and away goes the very best support the Union cause has. If you come across men who are too poor to take the paper, you can furnish them with yours after reading it yourself, and thus you will be giving aid and comfort to the cause. Don't suppose that you are laboring for the editor, but for the great cause which the paper is supporting and defending. There is one thing that I am satisfied of and that is this, that no man who will take the paper and read it impartially for one year, but will be a Union man, however base he may have been in favor of secession previous thereto.—Then we say go to work and labor for the cause of your country—reason with your neighbor and friend, and urge upon them the importance of sustaining the paper for the sake of the cause that it defends. Your country's weal or woe depends upon the success of the conflict now going on, the interest and well being of your children and your children's children, yea it may be the destiny of all free government depends upon the triumph of the contest now going on in this country. We sincerely hope that these considerations will awaken into action the latent energies of the friends of the Register, and drive them to exert themselves to their utmost, to spread light and truth by this means among the people.

W. W. H.

STRANGE IS IT?—That in a Union town, occupied by thousands of Union soldiers, that Union men alone should suffer every indignity, while rebels "go scot free!"

October 9th "and all is well"—that part of West Virginia called Point Pleasant is held by the Federal forces.

Another brutal murder was committed in Gallipolis on 1st inst. Mr. John Cooper, of Clay township, Gallia county, was stabbed in the abdomen by a private of Company A, 4th Va., named Severins, from which he died the next day.